

Applicant: Zurcher, Robert G.
Application Serial No.: 09/922,620
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D. Amendments to the Claims

Please cancel claims 1 to 29. Please add new claims 30-58 as follows:

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1-29. (Cancelled)

30. (New) A shielded intravenous infusion or blood collection assembly comprising:

an elongate needle;

a length of tubing;

an elongate housing being supportingly interposed between said needle at a distal end and said tubing at a proximal end and in fluid communication therewith, said housing comprising a pair of oppositely directed outwardly extended wings; and

a shield pivotally secured to said housing for pivotal movement from an open position away from said needle to a closed position enclosing said needle.

31. (New) The assembly of claim 30, wherein said wings are flexible.

32. (New) The assembly of claim 30, wherein said wings are rigid.

33. (New) The assembly of claim 30, further including mounting means for mounting said shield to said housing.

34. (New) The assembly of claim 33 wherein said mounting means includes a clip positionable about said wings adjacent said housing for securing said shield to said housing.

35. (New) The assembly of claim 34, wherein said clip is integrally formed with said shield.

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36. (New) The assembly of claim 34, wherein said shield is connected to said clip by a living hinge.

37. (New) The assembly of claim 36, wherein said living hinge includes a pair of spaced apart hinge elements that form a double living hinge.

38. (New) The assembly of claim 34, wherein said shield comprises a proximal end, a distal end, a pair of opposed shield sidewalls and a top surface thereby defining an elongated recess extending from said distal end to said proximal end for housing said needle therein when said shield is in said closed position.

39. (New) The assembly of claim 38, wherein said shield pivotally moves about a hinge, said hinge being located between said shield and said clip toward a proximal portion of said clip.

40. (New) The assembly of claim 39, wherein said shield sidewalls include opposed inwardly directed protrusions adjacent said proximal end of said shield for engaging said clip when said shield is in said closed position.

41. (New) The assembly of claim 38, wherein said shield pivotally moves about a hinge, said hinge being located between said shield and said clip toward a distal portion of said clip.

42. (New) The assembly of claim 41, wherein said shield sidewalls include opposed inwardly directed protrusions adjacent said proximal end of said housing for engaging said housing when said shield is in said closed position.

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43. (New) The assembly of claim 38, wherein said shield sidewalls comprise at least one inwardly directed protrusion adjacent said distal end of said recess of said shield, said distal protrusion being configured so as to be deflectable by said needle when said needle enters said elongated recess and returnable to an undeflected position when said shield is in said closed position.

44. (New) The assembly of claim 38 wherein said shield comprises a top finger guide area including a first ramp that extends slightly in an upwardly slope from said proximal end of said shield to a shoulder.

45. (New) The assembly of claim 44, wherein said first ramp includes a plurality of touch bumps.

46. (New) The assembly of claim 30, wherein said needle includes an upwardly facing beveled surface on the distal end thereof and said shield and said wings are aligned with said upwardly facing beveled surface of said needle.

47. (New) A safety device for a winged needle assembly having a needle, tubing and a housing in mutual fluid communication, said device comprising:

a shield pivotally supportable to said housing for pivotal movement from an open position away from said needle to a closed position enclosing said needle, said shield being connected to said housing; and

mounting means for mounting said shield to said housing.

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48. (New) The assembly of claim 47, wherein said mounting means includes a pair of outwardly extending wings and a clip positionable about said wings adjacent said housing for securing said shield to said housing.

49. (New) The assembly of claim 48, wherein said clip is integrally formed with said shield.

50. (New) The assembly of claim 48, wherein said shield is connected to said clip by a living hinge.

51. (New) The assembly of claim 50, wherein said living hinge includes a pair of spaced apart hinge elements to form a double living hinge.

52. (New) The assembly of claim 48, wherein said shield comprises a proximal end, a distal end, a pair of opposed shield sidewalls and a top surface thereby defining an elongated recess extending from said distal end to said proximal end for housing said needle therein.

53. (New) The assembly of claim 52, wherein said shield pivotally moves about a hinge, said hinge being located between said shield and said clip toward a proximal portion of said clip.

54. (New) The assembly of claim 53, wherein said shield sidewalls include opposed inwardly directed protrusions adjacent said proximal end of said shield for engaging said clip when said shield is in said closed position.

55. (New) The assembly of claim 52, wherein said shield pivotally moves about a hinge, said hinge being located between said shield and said clip toward a distal end of said clip.

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56. (New) The assembly of claim 55, wherein said shield sidewalls include opposed inwardly directed protrusions adjacent said proximal end of said housing for engaging said housing when said shield is in said closed position.

57. (New) The assembly of claim 52, wherein said shield sidewalls comprise at least one inwardly directed protrusion adjacent said distal end of said recess of said shield, said distal protrusion being configured so as to be deflectable by said needle when said needle enters said elongated recess and returnable to its undeflected position when said shield is in said closed position.

58. (New) The assembly of claim 57, wherein said shield comprises a top finger guide area including a first ramp that extends slightly on an upwardly slope from said proximal end of said shield to a shoulder, wherein said first ramp includes a plurality of touch bumps.